GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2488
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007
CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD NEAR PROTECTED MONUMENTS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an ordinance passed by ASI in 1992 stipulating more regulated growth around protected monuments ;

(b) if so, whether Delhi Government asked for clearance from ASI to construct road connecting National Highway 24 with Lodhi Road ;

(c) whether ASI constituted a committee of experts who shot down the proposal of building this road ;

(d) if so, whether inspite of experts view ASI has given its clearance to the proposed road ;

(e) whether this road is most dangerous to Humayun Tomb and other monuments as reported in the "Asian Age" dated February 07, 2007; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or being taken by Government to protect the monuments?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI)

(a) In 1992, ASI issued a notification declaring areas upto 100 metres from the protected limits of monuments of national importance as prohibited areas where all construction and mining activities are banned.Another 200 metres beyond this had been declared as regulated area where construction/mining activity is permitted only in accordance with the terms and conditions of a licence issued by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b)to(d) The Delhi Government had sought No Objection Certificate (NOC) to the construction of a link road connecting NH-24 bye pass with Lodhi Road.This proposal was examined by an Expert Advisory Committee constituted by Archaeological Survey of India and a conditional NOC was issued.As the response of the Delhi Government to the conditionalities has not been received, the NOC has been suspended.

(e)&(f) No, Sir. The proposed link road is passing through at a distance of 340 metres from the Humayun's Tomb. Besides Archaeological Survey of India had insisted upon the observance of specific conditions as the proposed link road was passing through areas in the vicinity of protected monuments.